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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Rainer TILSE)
SERIAL NO: 10/069,949) Group Art Unit: 3732
FILED: March 7, 2002) Examiner: John J. Wilson
TITLE: METHOD AND INSTRUMENT FOR INTRODUCING A DENTAL
FILLING MATERIAL WITH A SYNTHETIC RESIN BASE INTO A
TOOTH CAVITY

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) Hand-held device for filling a synthetic resin filling compound into a cavity of a tooth, the device comprising:
 - a nozzle from which the filling compound is injected into said cavity,
 - means for conveying the filling compound from ~~the supply~~ a supply container to a nozzle,
 - a handle portion, and
 - a sound generator that sets the nozzle into oscillation while the filing compound is conveyed from the supply container to the nozzle.
4. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the nozzle is a short small tube.
5. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3 wherein the supply container sits exchangeably in a holder and the sound generator is coupled to the holder in oscillation-transmitting fashion.

6. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the sound generator comprises a piezoelectric oscillator.
7. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the sound generator comprises a magnetostrictive oscillator.
8. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the sound generator comprises a pneumatically excited oscillator.
9. (currently amended) ~~The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3,~~
wherein Hand-held device for filling a synthetic resin compound into a cavity of a tooth, the device comprising:
a nozzle from which the filling compound is injected into said cavity,
means for conveying the filling compound from a supply container to the nozzle,
a handle portion,
a sound generator that sets the nozzle into oscillation, and
a common actuating element is provided for the sound generator and the conveying means so that by actuating the common actuating element the sound generator and the conveying process are both switched on.
10. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the hand-held device is configured in the way of a spray gun.
11. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein the hand-held device is configured in the way of a dentist's handpiece.
12. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 9, wherein said actuating element comprises a lever or a push button.
13. (previously presented) The hand-held device as defined in Claim 3, wherein said sound generator is an ultrasound generator.
14. (previously presented) A method for filling a filling material comprising the steps of:
providing a synthetic resin having a viscosity which is lowered under the action of vibrations, and

injecting said synthetic resin into a cavity of a tooth while subjecting the synthetic resin to the action of sound.

15. (previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 14, wherein the synthetic resin is injected into the cavity using a nozzle, and the nozzle is subjected to the action of sound.

16. (previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 14, wherein the synthetic resin is subjected to ultrasound.